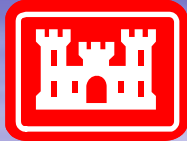




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# Lehigh River Water Quality/Flow Model

Gregory Wacik, Ecologist  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
Philadelphia District  
Environmental Resources Branch



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# Two Phases

- Section 22 (Water Resource Development Act) Planning Assistance to the States
- PHASE I- cost shared between the Federal Government (Corps of Engineers) and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (PADCNR)
- PHASE II- will be cost shared between the Corps and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (PADCNR and PFBC)

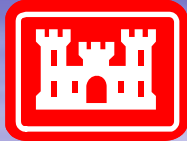




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# Model Phase I & II

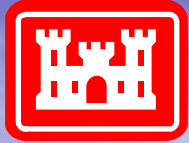
- Phase I- An evaluation of the relationship between inflake and downstream temperatures in response to various pool heights and operational scenarios at F.E. Walter Reservoir.
- Phase II- Integrates additional water quality parameters into Phase I and allows for six additional scenario runs.



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# Overall Objective

- To help evaluate reservoir operational scenarios and the potential impact on the environment and recreation at F.E. Walter Reservoir and in the Lehigh River



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# Reservoir and River Considerations

- Recreation
- Water chemistry
- Aquatic and terrestrial habitats
- Ecological function





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# Iron Precipitate on Lehigh River Sediments (2002) as a result of in-lake water chemistry changes





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(GREEN)

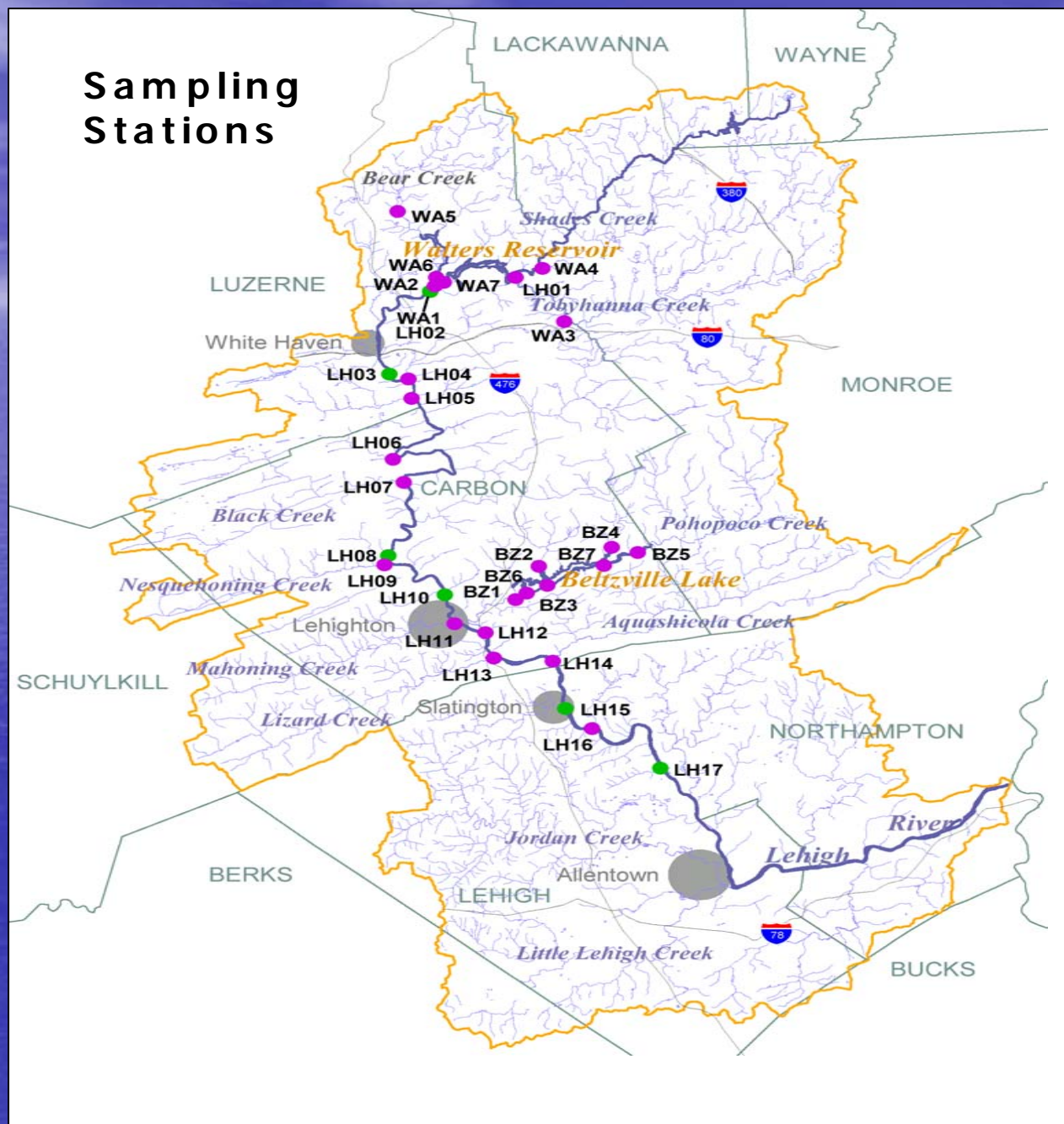
RIVER  
STATIONS



(PINK)

TRIBUTARY and  
LAKE STATIONS

## Sampling Stations







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# Phase I Data Compilation

- Operational Records 2000-2007
- Corps WQ sampling data in-lake and River 2000-2007
- USGS flow and water quality data
- Lehigh River Stocking Association Lehigh River temperature data at Jim Thorpe

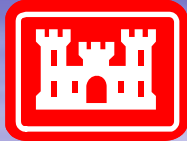




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# Phase I Status

- Model has been developed and scenarios will be run against 2001 (low flow) and 2003 (high flow) years
- Contract allows for six pre-determined model scenarios
- The Corps and State have developed two scenarios currently being prepared for the model



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# Phase I Status

- Eight potential scenarios have been developed for public comment (includes whitewater, fishery, and environmental flows)
- The final four scenarios under the Phase I contract will be developed and finalized considering public input



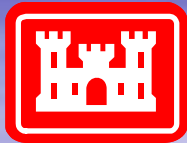


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# Foundation of Model Runs

- Existing Conditions (bypass system and flood control gates)
- Conceptual multi-portal tower

<u>Portal</u>	<u>Elevation</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
#1	1380	500 cfs
#2	1360	500 cfs
#3	1340	500 cfs
#4	1320	500 cfs
#5	1300	500 cfs



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# Scenario A & B

- Assumed starting pool height 1370' on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 1365' on July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Fisheries augmentation release has been front loaded early in the season
- Possible 24 Whitewater release dates
- Scenario A using existing tower
- Scenario B using conceptual portals in multi-portal tower

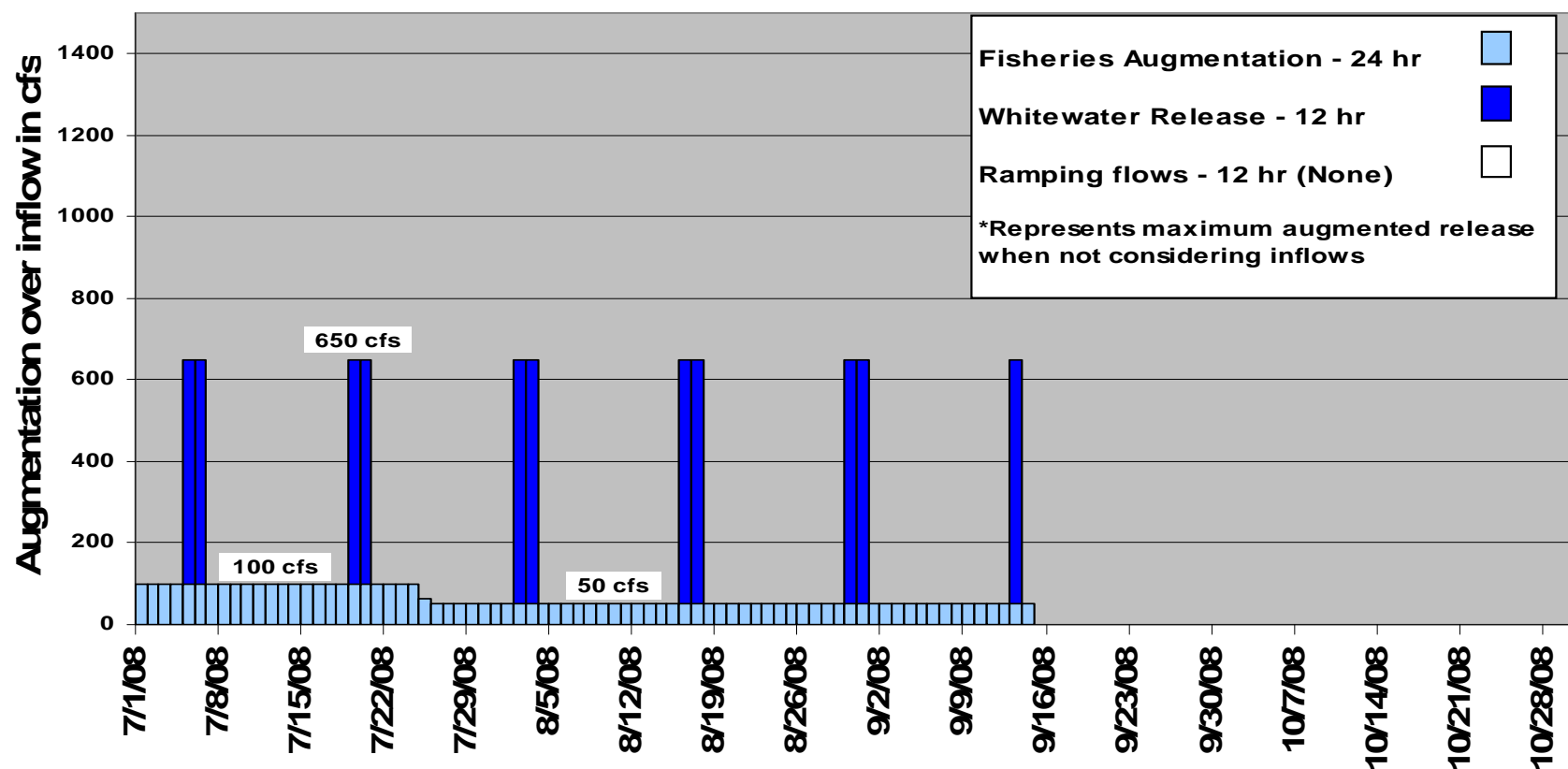




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# Scenario A & B

Scenarios A & B - Start at 1365' (Assumed target for July 1st)  
(Assumed target of 1370' for May 10th)





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# Scenario C & D

- Assumed starting pool height 1392' on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 1387' on July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Fisheries augmentation release has been provided for entire season
- Possible 24 whitewater release dates
- Scenario C using existing tower
- Scenario D using conceptual portals in multi-portal tower

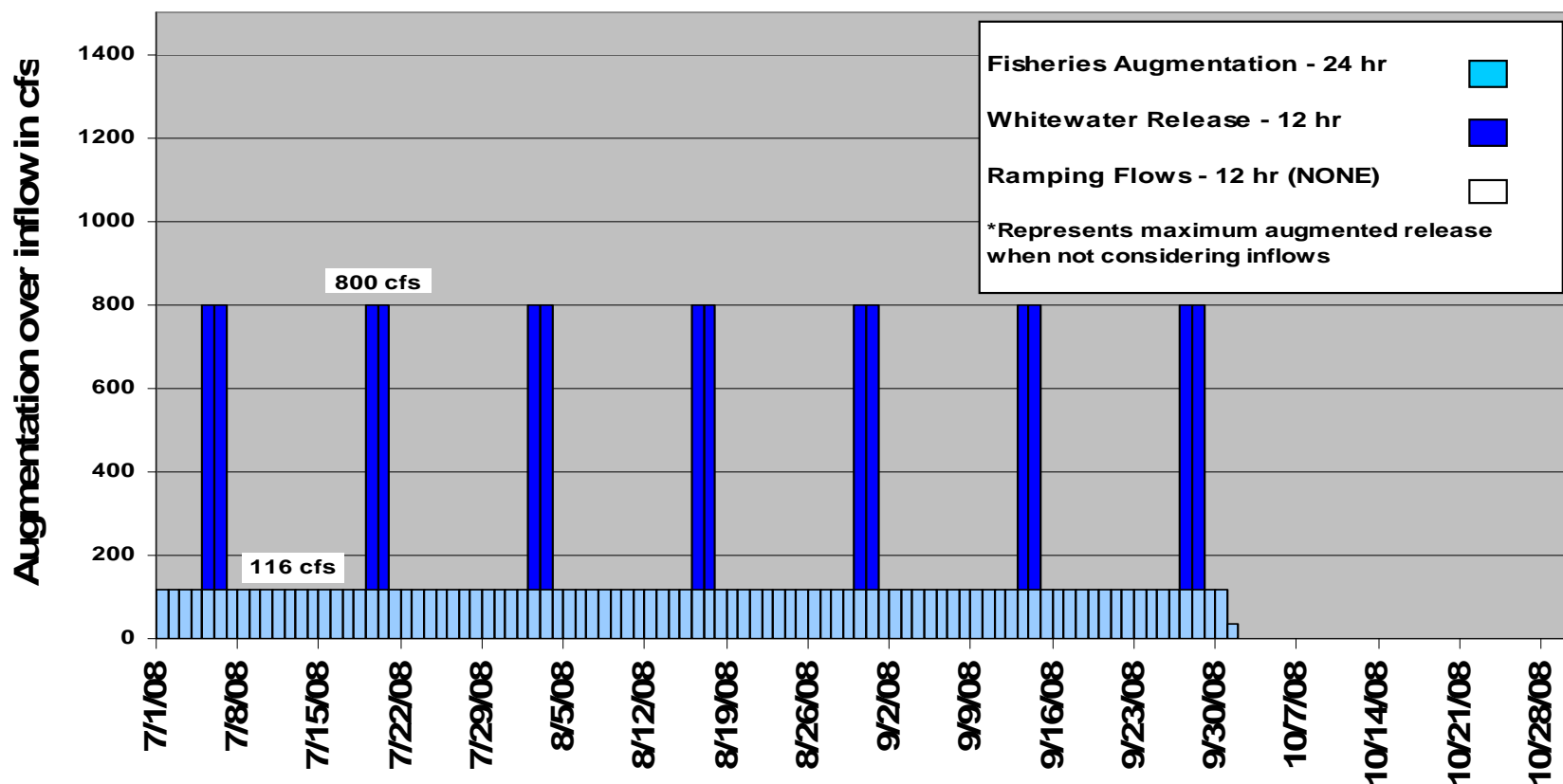


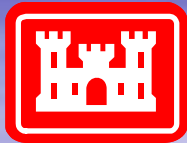


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# Scenario C & D

Scenarios C & D - Start at 1387' (Assumed target for July 1st)  
(Assumed target of 1392 for May 10th)





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# Scenario E & F

- Assumed starting pool height 1392' on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 1387' on July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Fisheries augmentation release has been provided for entire season
- Possible 24 whitewater release dates
- Ramping releases provided on whitewater release weekends
- Scenario E using existing tower
- Scenario F using conceptual portals in multi-portal tower

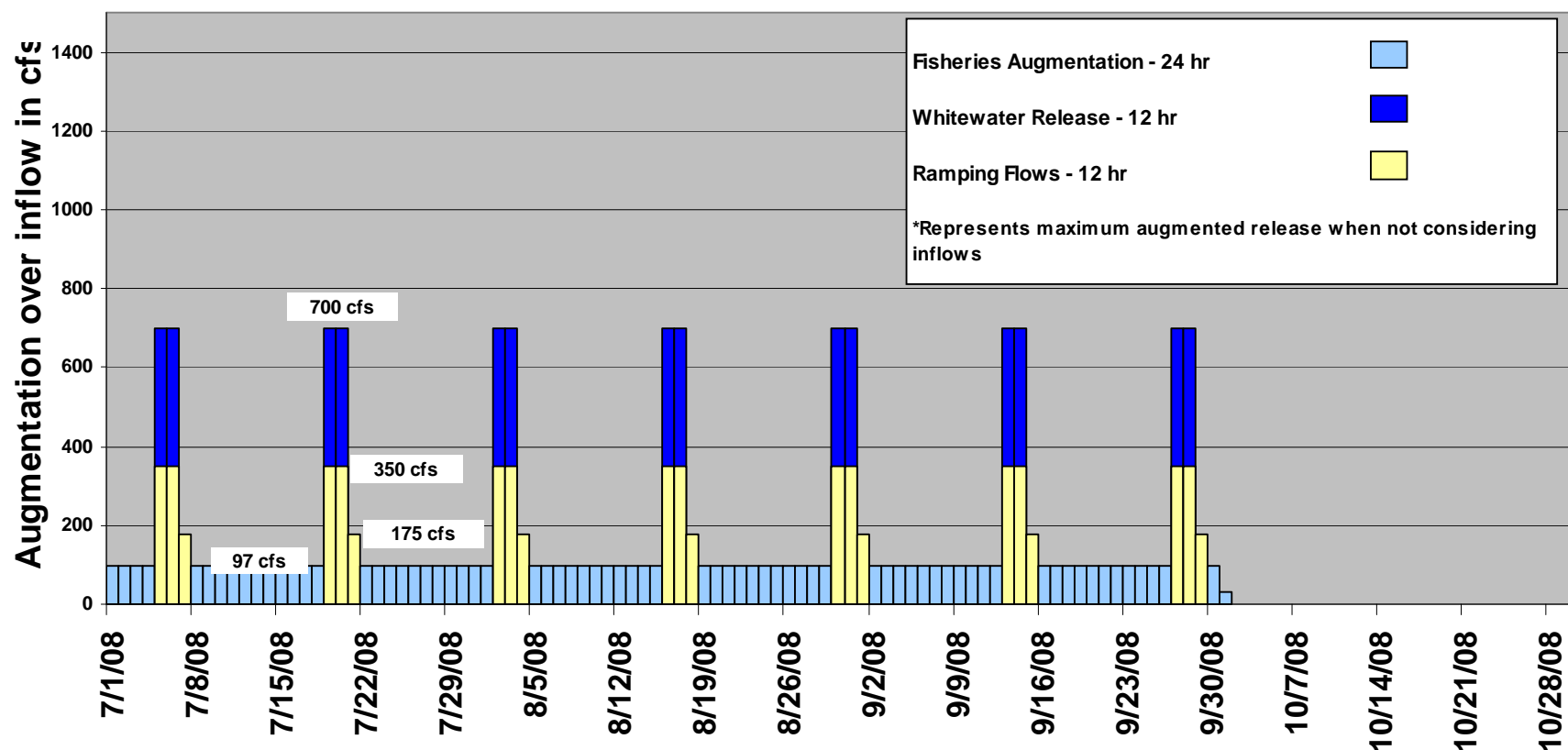




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# Scenario E & F

Scenarios E & F - Start at 1387' (Assumed target for July 1st)  
(Assumed target of 1392' for May 10th)

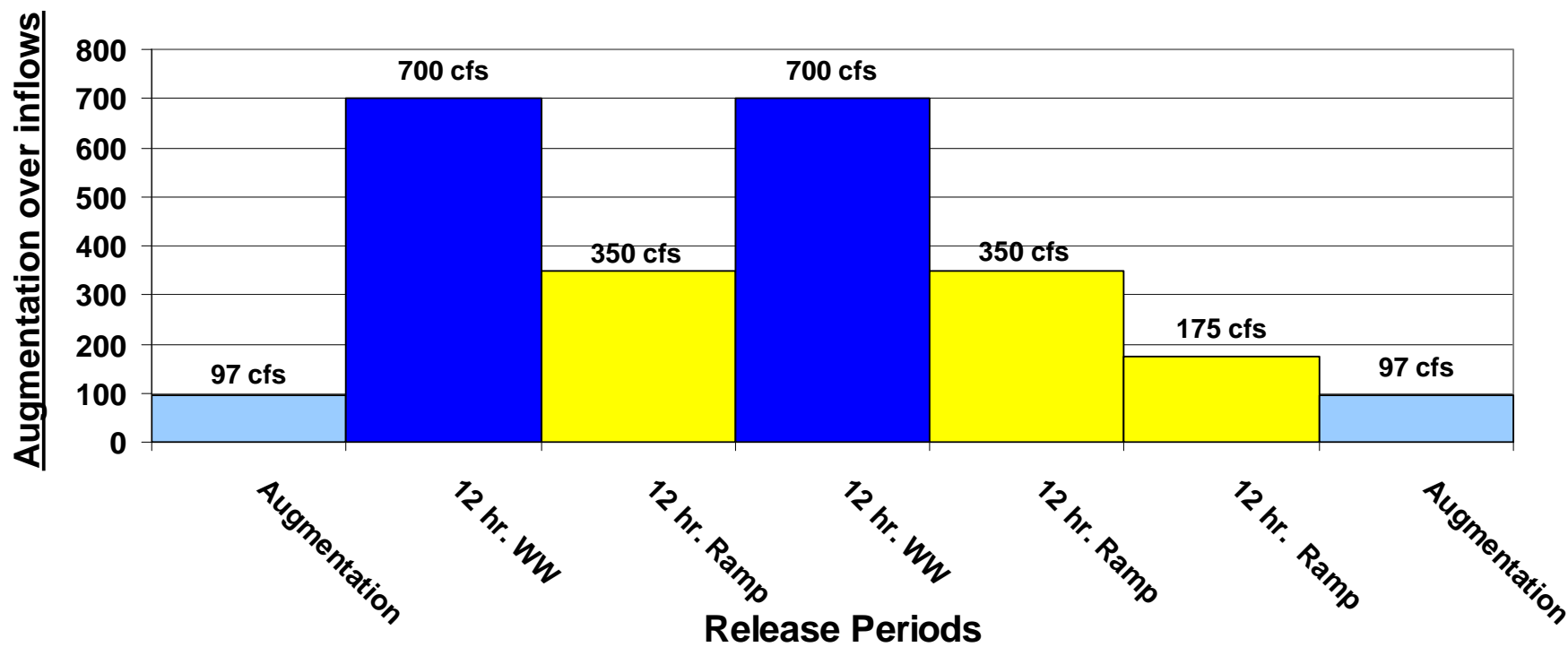


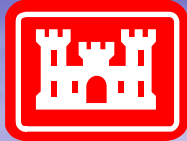


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# Ramping Flows

Whitewater Releases (WW) and Ramping (Ramp) Flows  
(Example Scenario E and F)





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# Scenario G & H

- Assumed starting pool height 1392' on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 1387' on July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Fisheries augmentation release has been provided for entire season with no whitewater releases
- Scenario G using existing tower
- Scenario H using conceptual portals in multi-portal tower

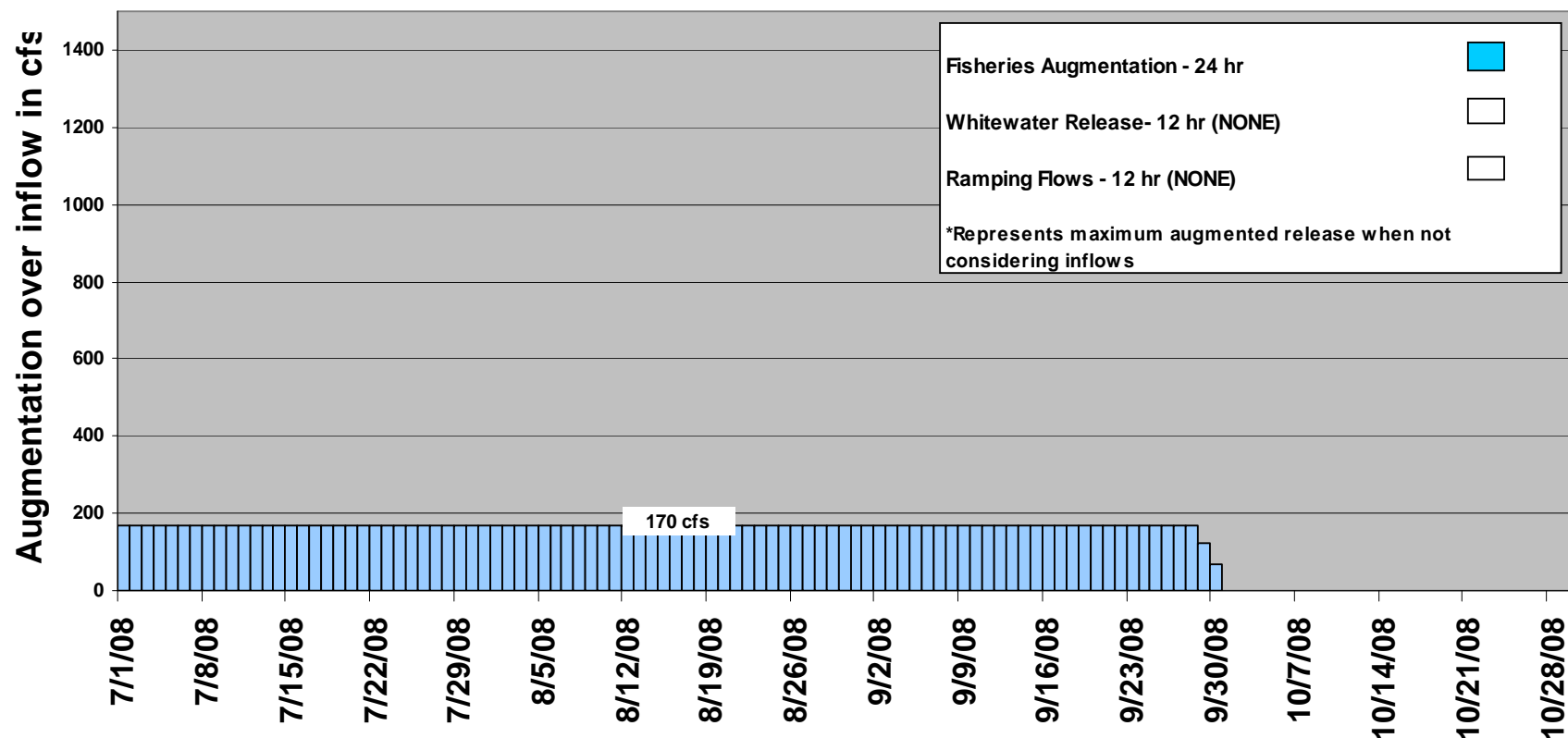


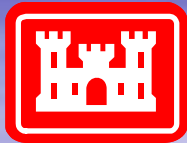


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# Scenario G & H

Scenarios G & H - Starting at 1387' (Assumed target for July 1st)  
(Assumed target of 1392' for May 10th)





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# Scenario I & J

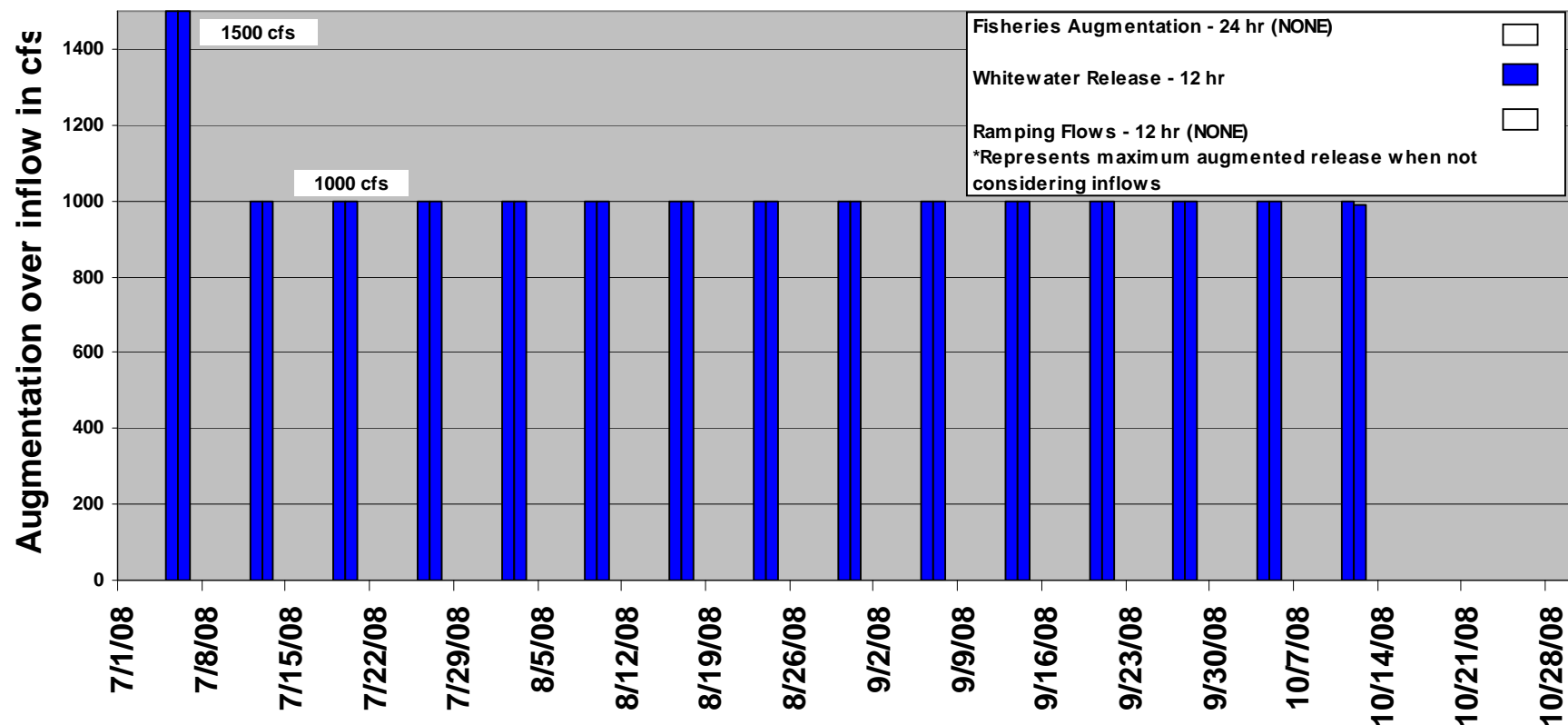
- Assumed starting pool height 1392' on May 10<sup>th</sup> and 1387' on July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Whitewater releases have been provided for entire season with no fisheries releases
- Scenario I using existing tower
- Scenario J using conceptual portals in multi-portal tower



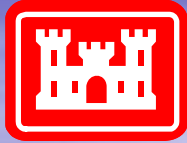
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# Scenario I & J

Scenarios I & J - Starting at 1387' (Assumed target July 1st)  
(Assumed target of 1392' on May 10th)







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# Public Comment

- Four additional scenarios will be selected and developed under the Phase I model contract
- Comments on potential scenarios can be provided to the Philadelphia Districts F.E. Walter Project website



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**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?**



Official public comments:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
ATTN: Public Affairs (CENAP-PA)  
100 Penn Square East  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

F.E. Walter website:

[http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/  
Projects/FEWalter/comments.htm](http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/FEWalter/comments.htm)